February 20, 1964

MEMORANDUM TO MR. J. LEE RANKIN   Oswald~~, Lee H. Post-Russian Period~~

FROM: Howard P. Willens

Attached are some investigative materials which Mr. Stern states he found in the file submitted to the Commission by the State Department. They include three (3) FBI reports and [illegible] a copy of his dis-charge [illegible], which we have recently requested of the Department of Defense.

The first two FBI reports, i.e., those dated May 12, 1960 and October 25, 1963, were never submitted to the Commission.

Most of the information contained in the 1963 report, dealing with Oswald's Cuban activity in New Orleans was supplied in other FBI reports. Some, but not all, of the information contained in the May 12, 1960 report was also summarized in other FBI reports which have been submitted to the Commission.

I discussed this informally today with Mr. Malley of the FBI. Mr. Malley suggested that these reports probably were not made available because of the different headings carried by these reports. I suggested to him that the May 12, 1960 report appeared particularly significant in that it suggested that the initial FBI investigative activities were precipitated by the information that Marguerite Oswald purchased a draft in January of 1960 in order to send $25 to her son in Russia. Mr. Malley took down the headings of these reports and said that he would check back with me.

Mr. Malley called later and stated that he was informed that the information set forth in these reports had been supplied the Commission in other reports. He stated that the Bureau would be glad to send these reports officially if we so desired. He stated that he believed that no other reports carrying such titles did exist which had not been supplied the Commission.

As a matter of information, he also stated that the FBI opened a file on Oswald as a result of the newspaper publicity following Oswald's defection to Russia. He suggested that this was [illegible] contrary to my suggestion earlier that the April, 1960 interview marked the first investigative effort by the FBI regarding Oswald. He did state, however, that so far as he knew there were no investigative reports prepared on Lee Harvey Oswald prior to the report of May 12, 1960, nor was any other investigation conducted prior to April of 1960.

I told Mr. Malley that we would consider the matter further, but that in the absence of a request there was no need for the Bureau to transmit officially these two reports which are already in the possession of the Commission.